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A61K 7/00(21) Application number: **09085749**(22) Date of filing: **19.03.97**(71) Applicant: **SHISEIDO CO LTD**(72) Inventor: **SUZUKI RIKAKO**
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NAGANUMA MASAOKO**(54) TYROSINASE INHIBITOR****(57) Abstract:**

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To obtain a tyrosinase inhibitor capable of preventing and improving pigmentation after sunburn, spot, freckle, chloasma, etc., having inhibitory action on tyrosinase activity by including an extract of *Uncaria gambir* Roxb.

SOLUTION: This inhibitor comprises an extract of *Uncaria gambir* Roxb., an evergreen bush of creeping nature, as an active ingredient. The amount of the active ingredient added is 0.0005-20 wt.%, preferably 0.001-10 wt.% calculated as a dried substance in the total of an

external preparation. The medicine is properly formulated with components useful in an external preparation for skin such as cosmetic or medicine and prepared into an ointment, cream, milky lotion, lotion, pack, bathing agent, etc. The extract is obtained by immersing leaf, stem, flower, bark, seed, fruit, the whole plant, etc., of *Uncaria gambir* Roxb., in an extraction solvent such as ethanol, or heating under reflux, filtering and concentrating the filtrate. The inhibitor has excellent effects on pigmentation after sunburn, spot, freckle, color lightening such as chloasma and skin lightening and is excellent in safety.

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